

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This list of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): A method for treating sexual dysfunction in a female patient comprising topically administering to the genitals of said patient an effective amount of esterified L-arginine or a derivative comprising ethyl ester of L-arginine and an effective amount of an antioxidant.

Claims 14-17 (canceled)

Claim 18 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein the antioxidant is ascorbic acid or derivatives thereof.

Claim 19 (original): The method of Claim 18, wherein said antioxidant is a combination of ascorbic acid and ascorbic acid palmitate.

Claim 20 (canceled)

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method of Claim 13, wherein said esterified L-arginine or derivatives of L-arginine and said antioxidant are administered concurrently in the same composition.

Claim 22 (original): The method of Claim 21, wherein said composition is in the form of a gel, ointment, foam, spray, cream, salve, lotion, liquid, emulsion or liposomal suspension.

Claim 23 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said effective amounts are those amounts necessary to cause the desired level of blood flow to erectile tissue while minimizing peroxynitrite levels.

Claim 24 (currently amended): The method of Claim 13, wherein said esterified L-arginine or derivative of L-arginine and said antioxidant are applied to the clitoral hood.

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Claim 25 (original): The method of Claim 13, wherein said treatment results in enhancement of sexual pleasure.

Claims 26-32 (canceled)